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July 25, 2019

Honorable Victor Marrero United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, New York 10007

USDC SDNY DOCUMENT

ELECTRONICALLY FILED

DOC #:

DATE FILED:

Re.: <u>U.S.</u> v. <u>Charles Ventura</u> 16 CR 809 (VM)

Dear Judge Marrero:

I represent Charles Ventura in the above captioned case and I am writing to request that the Court assign Christopher Wright, Esq. as a mentee for the defense of Charles Ventura. If approved by the Court Mr. Wright will serve some paralegal functions as well as participate at trial. I expect that he will confer with my client, review discovery with him and actively participate in the trial.

The trial in Ventura's case is scheduled for September 9, 2019 and the defense anticipates we will be filing motions reviewing voluminous 3500 material and preparing for trial. Christopher Wright is a criminal attorney with over 20 years experience. He was formerly employed by the New York City Legal Aid Society and has conducted more than 40 trials to verdict. He is a member of the Eastern District of New York's mentoring program and will be of great assistance to Mr. Ventura in the upcoming trial.

The mentoring program is designed to improve the overall quality of the CJA Panel by providing mentees with federal experience. As a mentee Mr. Wright would provide the first 15 hours of service on a pro bono basis and thereafter may bill at a rate of sixty-five (\$65.00) dollars an hour.

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If this request meets your approval I will create a C.J.A. e-voucher and have Mr. Wright begin working on Mr. Ventura's case. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

JB/dw

s/ JOHN BURKE Attorney for Charles Ventura

Request GRANTED. Sefendant
Charles Ventura, Through counsel
is authorized to retain the services of
mentee counsel on the terms and
so ordered.

7-26-19
DATE VICTOR MARKERO, U.S.D.J.